

PROGRESSIVE FARMER

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"THE INDUSTRIAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS OF OUR PEOPLE PARAMOUNT TO ALL OTHER CONSIDERATIONS OF STATE POLICY," is the motto of The Progressive Farmer, and upon this platform it shall rise or fall. On all matters relating especially to the great interests it represents, it will speak with no uncertain voice, but fearlessly the right defend, and impartially the wrong condemn. Serving no master, ruled by no faction, circumscribed by no selfish or narrow policy, its aim will be to foster and promote the best interests of the whole people of the State. —From Col. Polk's *Salutatory*, Feb. 10, 1886

EDITORIAL

EDITORIAL NOTES

Don't forget the adjourned meeting of Wake County Alliance at The Progressive Farmer office, Saturday, February 24th. Come.

The Raleigh Post states that the Constitution requires registrars to qualify before entering upon the discharge of their duties. We accept the correction. Still we do not know why Senator Franks' amendments were objectionable.

President Graham, of the State Alliance, has appointed the following delegates to the National Pure Food and Drug Congress, to be held at Washington, D. C., March 7th: Hon. S. B. Alexander, Charlotte; Capt. W. B. Fleming, Ridgeway. Alternates: J. W. Wharton, Greensboro; J. A. Fisher, Salisbury.

Our readers will find our Congressional summary in this issue of unusual interest. The passage of the gold standard bill by the Senate last week is an event of no small importance to a people already suffering from a congestion of the circulating medium and a protracted attack from those financial leeches, national banks.

Bro. Parker, returning from his Duplin trip last week, called to see us and gave us a good report from old Duplin. The farmers down there have the right spirit and the Alliance outlook is bright. Despite the bad weather, Bro. Parker reorganized several Sub and revived several others. We expect a full report from him for our next issue.

A correspondent asks for information in regard to a firm that pretends to teach magnetic healing, personal magnetism, hypnotism, mesmerism, suggestive therapeutics, &c. We know nothing of the particular concern to which she refers; but nine-tenths, and almost ten-tenths, of such concerns are, in our opinion, frauds of the first water. With vague and indefinite, but high sounding terms they confuse persons not highly educated and deceive many. The secret of their success is that there is a grain of truth in their statements. A lie, half truth, is ever the blackest and most successful of lies. It is always safe to let such concerns severely alone.

Our readers will be pleased to learn that we have made arrangements with Mr. Gerald McCarthy, State Botanist and Entomologist, for promptly answering all inquiries in regard to plant diseases, identification and economic value of plants and insects, etc. Mr. McCarthy is known throughout the country as an authority on all such matters. We have this week from his pen a very timely, practical and well written article, "Paris Green and other insecticides." We expect other letters from him in the near future. We trust that our readers will avail themselves of the opportunities offered by the arrangement we have made.

Here are a few stubborn facts that are more eloquent than a volume of anti-trust speeches. We glean them from the New York World: "Less than a year ago every workman in the country could buy oil for his lamps at 8 cents a gallon in cans. The Standard Oil Company has since successively raised the price to 12 cents, and it now sends out as a valentine to consumers a card announcing the addition of another cent per gallon on February 14. This is an advance of 5 cents a gallon, or 62 1/2 per cent., in less than a year. The Standard Oil Company last year paid 80 per cent. dividends on a largely fictitious capitalization of \$100,000,000. With such profits it has certainly no excuse for increasing the price of its commodity by 62 1/2 per cent." We commend this to the brethren who have defended trusts because they reduce the price.

A STARTLING FACT.

Last week, so the press dispatches tell us, the California legislature chose Thomas R. Bard, Republican United States Senator, to succeed Stephen M. White. Mr. Bard, the dispatches incidentally stated, is a millionaire land owner and oil operator.

But in the United States Senate millionaires are by no means unknown. In fact, Mr. Bard is millionaire No. 20. The other millionaire Senators are as follows:

Chauncey M. Depew (R. p.) New York, personal wealth, \$2,000,000.
William Andrews Clark (Dem.), Montana mine owner, banker and manufacturer \$50,000,000.

Marcus A. Hanna (Rep.), Ohio, coal and iron mine owner and manufacturer railroad magnate and banker \$12,000,000.

Stephen Benton Elkins (Rep.), West Virginia, coal and iron mines and railroads, \$7,000,000.

John Percival Jones (Silver), Nevada, gold and silver mines, \$10,000,000.

Rufus D. Proctor (Rep.), Vermont, lawyer, \$3,000,000.

John K. an (R. p.), New Jersey, lawyer, and banker, \$5,000,000.

Thomas Collier Platt (Rep.), New York, express company, banker and commercial interests, \$5,000,000.

George Peabody Westmore (Rep.), Rhode Island, banker, lawyer and capitalist, \$5,000,000.

Nathan B. Scott (Rep.), West Virginia, capitalist, \$2,000,000.

William Morris Stewart (Silver), Nevada, lawyer and gold and silver mine owner, \$2,000,000.

Nelson W. Aldrich (Rep.), Rhode Island, street railway magnate, \$1,000,000.

Addison G. Foster (Rep.) Washington, lumber, coal and shipping, \$2,500,000.

James McMillan (Rep.), Michigan, lumber, \$5,000,000.

Edward Oliver Wolcott (Rep.) Colorado, lawyer and mining, \$2,000,000.

Henry Cabot Lodge (Rep.), Massachusetts, literature, \$2,000,000.

Charles Warren Fairbanks (R. p.) Indiana, lawyer, \$2,000,000.

Joseph Benson Foraker (Rep.) Ohio, lawyer, \$1,000,000.

William J. Sewall (Rep.), New Jersey, railroads and banking, \$3,000,000.

This reveals the fact that nearly one fourth the entire number of Senators are millionaires. Millionaires, you remember also, comprise less than one hundredth of one per cent. of the population of the country. Yet more than 20 per cent. of the members of the upper house of our national Congress are millionaires. How much further are we to carry the spirit of commercialism? How much longer shall we debase manhood and enshrine the dollar? How much longer continue the policy that destroyed the glory of Rome and sapped the foundations of Grecian power? These are not idle questions. They are not the questions of a pessimist. But the stubborn fact that nearly one fourth of our most powerful law makers are from a class comprising less than one ten thousandth part of our population is in itself a demand to consider the signs of the times. And how many Senators, not themselves millionaires are the creatures and tools of this one ten thousandth part of our population? Are there not here the ear marks of a deep laid conspiracy of organized wealth? And has it not made all the progress it should be allowed to make in this boasted "government of, for, and by the people?"

CO-OPERATIVE FACTORIES.

The Progressive Farmer, being an uncompromising advocate of co-operative factories is pleased to note the steadily increasing popularity of the idea. We believe that it will go far towards solving the problem of agricultural depression. And we expect to see cotton and tobacco factories controlled by cotton and tobacco growers, and conducted upon the co-operative plan that we have supported, in operation in this State at no distant day. As a little pointer, take this interesting item from a recent issue of the Raleigh Post:

"The idea of establishing manufacturing plants on the co-operative plan is proving a popular one just at this time. The plan is in successful operation in a number of cities. It has the advantage of bringing into use the small savings of working people which otherwise would remain idle or be expended foolishly. The plan encourages working people to save a portion of their earnings, and also causes them to feel a direct interest in the enterprises in which their savings are invested. A Georgia contemporary tells us that Savannah has organized an association on the co-operative plan, and is meeting with great success.

"We believe, therefore, in this State, is just organizing a peanut mill company on the same plan, the farmers of the county uniting with business men of the town to establish it. There can not be too much co-operation between those who produce the raw material, those who do the labor in the factory, and those who furnish the capital."

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

Pessimists tell us that the world is growing worse; that society is more corrupt than ever before; that love of money has stifled the conscience of the people. We do not believe it. Take, for instance, the case of Ruben Ross, who was hanged at Lumberton last week. A poor friendless negro, a negro, furthermore, with a bad reputation; yet the possibility of his innocence aroused the interest of hundreds of prominent and intelligent whites and petitions for commutation of sentence piled up upon the Governor. Without reward or hope of reward, prominent people sacrificed time and prejudice and money in investigating a case upon which depended the seemingly worthless life of a being of an inferior race. Not for many days have we seen a more convincing proof of the fact that the heart of the people is right and that the spirit that in olden days impelled men to take the vows of knighthood and swear to defend the weak and protect the defenseless is still abroad in the land. And in a purer state, because it is through no desire for the visible glories of knighthood that this spirit now manifests itself. The same spirit moved the whole civilized world when a few months ago, injustice done one man, Alfred Dreyfus, roused the indignation of millions and wrested a pardon from the wronged man from an unwilling government. The pessimist we have always with us, but the progress of time does not increase his power.

TRUE AND TIMELY.

The editor of the Biblical Record, in last week's issue of that publication, comments very sensibly on the recent political troubles in Kentucky and points out some lessons to be learned from the terrible experiences of our sister State. Among other things he says:

"Party organs and party leaders [in Kentucky] have lashed their constituencies into rage, into insane hate, have defeated the very ends that political parties exist to subserve, have given us the spectacle of political parties and leaders subverting the liberties of the people and prostituting popular government to their own selfish ends. When political parties come to this, it is high time for all good men to withdraw their support. When a party makes an unfair election law to perpetuate itself, in the very act it confesses its unworthiness. When a political leader undertakes to override the popular will, in that moment he becomes the worst of traitors to free government. Unfair laws, desire for office rank partisanship, leaders determined to win, indifference to the State, party hatred, campaign threats, newspaper billingsgate, intimidation, have overthrown liberty in Kentucky; and they will overthrow it anywhere. The time has come when partisanship is a menace, and parties are to be feared more than the evils they promise to correct. Let North Carolinians, now in the first beginnings of a campaign, resolve to vent their passions not upon each other, but upon the stump-speaker, newspaper writer or editor who posing as their friend seeks to inflame them to hate their fellow citizens, or to encourage in them the spirit of violence. The true patriot will seek to make votes by reason and love instead of passion and hate. Remember this, and no matter in what guise he comes you will know your man. It is time the people were saving themselves from the political parties and their leaders. Let us have no more violent campaigns. The lesson of Kentucky in this hour is that horror is the fruit of violence."

OFFICERS TOBACCO ASSOCIATION.

A correspondent asks us to republish the list of officers of the North Carolina Tobacco Growers Association. They are:

President—J. Bryan Grimes, Grimes land, N. C.
Vice President—J. B. Phillips, Batteleboro, N. C.
Secretary—T. B. Parker, Hillsboro, N. C.
Treasurer—W. B. Upchurch, Morrisville, N. C.
Executive Committee—Col. R. W. Wharton, Dr. R. H. Speight, R. H. Ricks, H. H. Knight, Col. W. L. Kennedy, Col. T. F. Egan, W. L. Boulton, Dr. Elias Fulp.

AN HONEST CONFESSION.

The fact that many Englishmen realize the injustice of England's war upon the Dutch farmers of the Transvaal is well shown by an English publication that has just reached us. The title is "War Upon War In South Africa," and the appropriate motto is, "Divide us from bloodguiltiness, O Lord!" The editor is that influential and talented Englishman, W. T. Stead, the editor of the English Review of Reviews. Mr. Stead does not mince

words; his style is refreshingly frank and straightforward. This is evidenced by the following statement, which Mr. Stead gives as the platform of the paper:

1. What do you want to do? Stop this war!

2. When? Immediately!

3. Why? Because we are in the wrong.

4. How? By confessing our sins and doing right.

5. What sin? Lying to cover on piracy. Fraud in making false claims. Bad faith in going back on our word. Wholesale slaughter.

6. And to do right? Expose and punish the criminals. Compensate their victims and make peace!

It must be said that the contents of Mr. Stead's publication go far toward substantiating all the charges so courageously made in its platform. With a few more men of Mr. Stead's mould, the slumbering conscience of John Bull might be aroused.

ONION GROWING.

A correspondent asks for information regarding onion growing. To him and others desiring such information, we would say:

You should prepare the land intended for onions very carefully. Reduce the top 2 or 3 inches to a fine seed bed and smooth it with light roller before sowing seed. Do not use stable manure directly. Land heavily manured for corn this year may be used next year or in two years. Apply a chemical manure containing 3 or 4 per cent. of nitrogen and 8 or 9 per cent. each of phosphoric acid and potash, the latter as muriate or sulphate. Wood ashes are good also and yield about 1 to 1 1/2 per cent. of phosphoric acid with 6 to 8 per cent. of potash. A knowledge of your land and conditions is necessary to determine with any accuracy how much manure to use. Between 400 and 800 pounds will probably prove most profitable. Sow 5 or 6 pounds of seed per acre. You can find seed with any of the leading seedsmen. Do not change your dealer unless you find desirable seeds at lower prices, but we always advise near by houses for seeds and tools made near home. You will need a garden seed sower. You can find these also with seedsmen; but we have had more satisfaction from use of special cultivators for onions than the combination tools. Planet Jr. is a good seed drill. T. W. Wood & Sons, Richmond, Va., and Tait & Sons, Norfolk, Va., are nearby seedsmen. Send to these and others who advertise catalogues and select from their seed catalogues the kinds of onions you wish to cultivate. Bermuda, Spanish, and Italian are good. Other good varieties are Bermudas, Extra Early Red, Yellow Danvers, Red Weatherfield. Prices, from \$1 to \$2 per pound. Five pounds for \$5. Sow before February is out or early in March. Keep ground mellow and free from weeds by frequent cultivation. Our correspondent will please state that the writer is no longer with the N. C. Experiment Station. F. E. E.

THE HELPFUL HEN.

Under this title comes quite an extensive collection of poultry lore from Kansas. It is by that indefatigable worker and collector of the best literature in its line, Hon. F. D. Coburn, Secretary of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture.

At the top of cover of the book under the title in red ink we find: "While everything else was going to rack and ruin, she increased and multiplied; she supported herself and the family, too. The very insects which would have spoiled the farm she fattened upon, laying her daily egg—the blessed egg that took the place of beef and milk, mutton and pork—and in good time, after all these services, surrendered her toothsome body to the cause of humanity."

Part I is devoted to Farm Poultry, and it has been gathered a large amount of information concerning care and management and the different breeds and their uses. This part is embellished with numerous cuts of different breeds of fowls in which we seem to recognize the U. S. Department of Agriculture cuts which were so sharply criticised when they first appeared in Farmer's Bulletin No. 51. The first 164 pages are devoted to this part. There are essays and information gathered from the leading writers on the poultry business from widely separated sources and covering about all the phases of the business of poultry culture.

Part II consists of the proceedings, discussions, and papers presented at the twenty-sixth annual meeting of the Kansas Board of Agriculture. The essays show this meeting to have been attended by a lot of wide awake people all earnestly intent on placing the business of farming in Kansas and showing up the products at county fairs in a favorable light. Perhaps one of the most thoughtful and far-reaching papers for the benefit of Kansas and other farmers, is that by Mrs. Willie Lord Moore, of Hutchinson, on country clubs. F. E. E.

THE THINKERS.

FROM THE FARM

We see from time to time wagons loaded with household and kitchen furniture and destined for some cotton mill. Some of these people we know personally and others we can judge of very well, as a rule by the general appearance of their affairs. Most of them are people who were in comfortable circumstances in the country and attracted by the alluring stories of big pay and easy time in the mills, have given up the old home, disposed of most of their property, often the homestead that has been in the family for generations, and moved so to do.

We count this movement from the farms to the factories as detrimental to the strength and independence of the State. Of course there are built up great mill centers with humming spindles and rattling looms, with houses dotting hillsides once bare, and money turned loose regularly among hundreds of operatives, but there is another side to this movement. On the farm there was independence, there was health and always plenty, there was a home for which no rent was paid and a forest from which wood was had free. The labor was at times very hard, while at other times there was rest and recreation, there was time for educational and religious advantages other than Sunday. There were neighbors and relatives, known for years, who would stand by in sickness or death. They had time at their command to think and to do. Among the factory people, however great the desire to assist, their time belongs to another and usually their limited means do not permit of very extended help.

On the farm they have growing crops or crops laid by in store. With the operative paid off weekly or bi-weekly, there is usually little laid by. We have found the factory people clever, courteous and willing, but they have little or no time except in the mills. Anything that prospers at the expense of the farm and the good country life is a menace to the permanency and strength of our institutions. If the factories of North Carolina must be built at the expense of the farms of the State we feel that the State loses thereby. We would advise the country people not to give up the farm for the cotton mill. Your income may not be so great on the farm, yet your necessary outgo is not so great. In the mill it means six days early and late the year through. The mill owners and superintendents of North Carolina do as well, we dare say as those of any State, but it is not in their power to give the conveniences and comforts and independence that can be had on the farm. Back to the farm!

There is another problem connected with this movement which to us is serious. It is not unusual that you find a family of boys and girls dragged to town by a father who puts the children in the mill and spends his time in loafing and living on the wages of his hardworked children. This phase of the subject is a perplexing one. It cannot be reached by legislation or an appeal to pride or the general welfare of the family. The solution of it lies in the mill man combined with a healthy public sentiment against this child slavery, which is little if any better than the act of the Oriental who sells his child outright for so much money. Our heart grows sick sometimes as we go among our friends about the mills and see a worthless father, hale and hearty, living off the hard labor of several small children. On the farm this man was forced to help support his family. We do not want to be harsh in our judgment or paint the picture too dark, yet we want to fully emphasize the danger of this congestion of the people about factories at the expense of the country and the wholesome farm life. There are exceptions to be sure, but the ceaseless toil of the busy mill will not be found like the easy-going, independent life in the country. We would say to the father and mother on the farm to stay at home and till their acres in peace, with children reared robust and free, rather than join the throng which goes in ever increasing numbers to the factory centers. Back to the farm!—North Carolina Baptist.

Albert E. McKay, quoting from Maurice Thompson's article on Education and Discontent, in which he speaks of the common labor of the fields as having to be done by some one, and that people should be contented with whatever vocation falls to their lot, is in my opinion entirely wrong. It is preached by a class who desire to keep for themselves and their descendants the cream of earth's fruits while they feed the masses on the cores and parings.

Suppose since time began every human being had been content with his or her lot? Do these gentlemen imagine

there would have been much progress made by the human race? If a man no matter what his position, is situated so as he can obtain the fruits of his labor, he has a perfect right to be discontented, and it is a very discontent that has broken the shackles from the slave and given the faint semblance of freedom to the have, and this discontent will, like leaven, continue to work until the whole is leavened and justice, in the as well as name, rules the earth.

As to education—whatever vocation in life we are called on to fill, whether it be a laborer in the field or a judge upon the bench—unless we are possessed with a knowledge of our rights and how to assert them, unless we are acquainted with the rights of others and how not to encroach upon them, we are but poor citizens of a Republic which declares to the world "That men are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among which are the right to life, to liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

This, and this alone, is true education. Without it we are but little better than the cattle—R. Price Cooper in Saturday Evening Post.

In 1864, President Lincoln, bowed down with the weight of immediate responsibilities, yet looking forward to dangers more grave even than civil war and the deliberate attempt by force of arms to disrupt the Union, wrote thus from the White House to Mr. Elkins, an Illinois friend:

"I see in the near future a crisis approaching that unnervs me and causes me to tremble for the safety of my country. As a result of the war our corporations have been enthroned, and an era of corruption in high places will follow. The money power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people until all wealth is aggregated in a few hands and the Republic is destroyed. I feel at this moment more anxious for the safety of my country than ever before, even in the midst of war. God grant that my suspicions may prove groundless!"

In no other year since Lincoln's prophetic words were written have there been so many proofs that it was indeed the forecast of a seer, whose vision was made clear by an abundant loan for his fellows, and a patriotism as deep and pure as ever lived in the soul of man. Today the aggregated wealth under the control of fewer than 100 men mounts up into the billions, whereas in Lincoln's day the millionaire was a rarity.—Ex

THE LATE GOVERNOR OF KENTUCKY.

Beginning a closely analytical editorial, The Greenville, S. C., N. W. says: "There is the pathos of a wasted life in the fate of Goebel, of Kentucky. He seems to have begun with the determination to be rich and a power in politics and to have sacrificed to his ambitions all the pleasures valued by most men. Apparently he had no domestic or social life, no small joys and no conscience—cold, relentless, fearless, making his way to his ambitions at the cost of everything by the power of nerve and intellect and clear-headed scheming. He appears to have hesitated at nothing to beat down or remove obstacles—a Napoleon in a small way without Napoleon's weaknesses. He does not seem to have been subject even to the common human infirmity of vanity. His life was all purpose—and it was not a very high purpose, and he was not scrupulous in his methods. His force of character was enormous. It is a pity it was not devoted to better ends."

APPALLING POWER.

The first victims of the Standard Oil company were its competitors. They were crushed. Though oil is a natural resource, like water, it is now pretty thoroughly monopolized. The public was not long in feeling the trust's iron hand, through various legislative bodies. Now the public is feeling the pressure direct, in advanced prices of oil. But none of the victims mentioned is likely to make such a stir about the Standard's appalling power as the large body of financiers, promoters and speculators who have had their places dashed and their fortunes wrecked by the unseen hand of the trust in its titanic manipulations. Standard oil buys up banks and other trusts, creates a panic in the stock market for its own ends—it comes pretty near owning the country, soul and body. But the people will yet throttle this evil!—Farm and Home.

History has not been poor in beautiful deeds, but all her annals do not record one more beautiful than that of Mr. Thomas B. Bailey, of Mocksville, establishing a fund at the State Normal College for the sake of poor and worthy girls in memory of his daughters whose lives were lost in the epidemic that recently came so suddenly upon the institution. The act reveals the riches of the man's heart and opens to it every heart in North Carolina.—Biological Recorder.